Renewal of tracks

†1194. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details with regard to renewal of rail tracks proposed in the year 2003-2004;

(b) whether Government have made any action plan jointly with State Governments in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) 3850 km of track renewals have been planned in the year 2003-2004.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Linking of Pondicherry and Bangalore

1195. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have already ordered survey for linking Pondicherry and Bangalore through railway line; and

(b) if so, what is the outcome of the survey and by when it will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) Pondicherry and Bangalore are already connected by Railway line.

(b) Does not arise.

Rail line from Gandhinagar to Moti-Adaraj

1196. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Railways has agreed to connect Gandhinagar with the Ahmedabad-Delhi Gauge line;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) what is the planned time frame for completion of broad gauge of Kalol Moti-Adaraj;

(c) the budget provision for the same *vis-a-vis* the planned time frame; and

(d) the position of the new railway line from Gandhinagar to Moti-Adaraj?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The entire project including conversion of Adaraj Moti-Kalol is planned for completion during 2004-05 depending upon availability of resources. The anticipated cost of the project is Rs. 49.96 crore. An outlay of Rs. 15 crore has been provided for the project during 2003-04.

(d) 30 hectare out of 45 hectare land has been acquired. Earthwork and bridgeworks are in various stages of progress.

Palanpur-Gandhidham rail line

1197. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of project of conversion to broad gauge of the Palanpur-Gandhidham rail line;

(b) whether Railways have a time bound programme for completion of this conversion; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) The gauge conversion of Gandhidham-Samakhiyali-Palanpur MG line is in progress. Earthwork, bridges and ballasting have been taken up and are in various stages of progress. The project is covered under National Rail Vikas Yojana.

(b) and (c) This project is likely to be completed in next 2-3 years as per the availability of resources.